

Report on Survey trip to points in Georgia and Florida
May 10-12, 1939

(E. E. Rogers)

Quitman, Georgia

Mr. L. V. Cawley, Brooks County Agricultural Agent, was contacted. Mr. Cawley stated that the people in Brooks County, Georgia are having plenty of trouble with Cochliomyia americana at this season of the year. Mr. Cawley had just been in the southern part of his county this week and a number of farmers were having screwworm infestations. Mr. Cawley referred the writer to Mr. A. J. Radford near the Florida line who had 25 infestations in the last ten days. While enroute to Madison, Florida Mr. Radford was contacted. Mr. Radford stated that screwworms are as bad on his stock now as they have been in September in previous years. The greatest number of infestations are in the navels of young calves, but there are almost as many infestations in his hogs. Mr. Radford has a large herd of cattle and about two hundred head of hogs. He had some infestations in January and about fifteen or twenty infestations in the last thirty days.

One of the men in Mr. Cawley's office stated that he had one infestation of screwworms about two weeks ago in a mule that had been hooked by a cow. The mule died but not from the infestation of screwworms.

Mr. Young of Young and Jones Hardware Store, dealers in pine tar oil and benzol, stated that he has been selling some pine tar oil and benzol but not a great amount. At the time the writer was in this

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Mr. Young of Young and Jones Hardware Store, dealers in pine tar oil and benzol, stated that he has been selling some pine tar oil and benzol but not a great amount. At the time the writer was in this

store a customer purchased two quarts of benzol and two quarts of pine tar oil. This customer was P. A. Jones, nine miles south of Quitman, who had three screwworm infestations in hogs.

Mr. Mitchell who owns a hardware business, and who also sells pine tar and benzol, had heard of about twelve or fifteen screwworm infestations and has been selling some pine tar and benzol.

Mr. Bennett who owns a dairy about two miles north of Quitman stated that he has not had any screwworm infestations. The cattle are all examined carefully and the navels of all calves are treated with pine tar oil when dropped.

A Mr. H. B. Howard who lives ten miles south of Quitman stated that he had one infestation of screwworm about three weeks ago in a castration wound of a hog.

Madison County, Madison, Florida

Mr. S. L. Brothers, Madison County Agricultural Agent, stated that he had an infestation of screwworms in a bird dog two weeks ago. He also stated that screwworm infestations have been present in Madison County, Florida all winter and the screwworms are about as bad now as ever.

A salesman in Waring-Wyche Hardware Store, retail dealers in pine tar and benzol, said that they have been selling some most every day for about five weeks.

A drug store owner in Madison, who sells screwworm medicines, said that he has sold very few bottles of screwworm medicines this season.

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said that he has sold very few bottles of screwworm medicines this season.

Jefferson County, Monticello, Fla.

Mr. P. R. McMullen, Jefferson County Agricultural Agent, stated that he had not heard of very many infestations, but that some have been present all during the winter and spring.

Mr. L. R. Rainey who owns a hardware store in Monticello was contacted. He is a dealer in pine tar oil and benzol and stated that he sells some benzol and pine tar oil almost every day. Mr. Rainey also owns a large herd of cattle, and stated that he had twenty infestations in his cattle today. Most of these infestations were in his younger cattle. These infestations were not treated because the cattle were very wild. Mr. Rainey said he would treat them within the next few days. Screwworm infestations were present in this herd of cattle during January and February.

Taylor County, Perry, Fla.

I did not meet the county agricultural agent, who was out of town. However, I did meet Dr. Owens, Assistant State Veterinarian, who is a livestock sanitary inspector for Taylor and Lafayette Counties. Dr. Owens stated that the farmers of Taylor and Lafayette Counties had infestations all winter and that the numbers of infestations are increasing all the time. The cattlemen are having more trouble in hogs than any other livestock. Dr. Owens stated that screwworm infestations have been greater in Taylor and Lafayette Counties the past winter than during any winter since the outbreak of screwworms in Florida.

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Mr. Quinn who owns the Quinn Drug Store at Perry, Fla. is selling pine tar and benzol and Kreso Dip every day for treatment of screwworms. Someone gave Mrs. Quinn's brother two little calves and screwworms killed one of them and almost killed the other one.

Mr. J. P. Carlton, a local cattle owner, was contacted and stated that he treated two infestations of screwworm on May 10. The first case of screwworm that Mr. Carlton saw this season was on April 1. Mr. Carlton stated that screwworms are earlier this year than they have been in two or three years.

Lafayette County, Mayo, Florida

Mr. D. H. Ward, County Agricultural Agent, stated that he is not in a position to say just what the screwworm conditions are in his county as he has not been out over the county this year. A farmer was contacted in Mayo and stated that there are plenty screwworm infestations in the county at present and there have been some all winter.

Mr. C. H. Stephenson stated that he had more trouble with screwworms in his livestock last July, August, and September than he has ever had.

A Mr. Birchfield who is a druggist in Mayo stated that he is selling some medicines for screwworms, but not a great amount. Mr. Birchfield also stated that screwworms are killing all the rabbits. He has not seen any infestation in rabbits, but his brother, who is a hunter, has killed many rabbits with screwworm infestations.

Mr. Quinn who owns the Quinn Drug Store at Perry, Fla. is selling pine tar and benzol and Kresol Dip every day for treatment of soreworms. Someone gave Mrs. Quinn's brother two little calves and soreworms killed one of them and almost killed the other one. Mr. J. P. Carlton, a local cattle owner, was contacted and stated that he treated two infestations of soreworm on May 10. The first case of soreworm that Mr. Carlton saw this season was on April 1. Mr. Carlton stated that soreworms are earlier this year than they have been in two or three years.

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Mr. Birchfield is selling more Gulf Oil Company and other remedies for screwworm than benzol. His best seller is Barry's Screwworm Killer, made in Newberry, Fla. This preparation contains benzol, pine tar oil, phenol, and inert substances.

Mr. J. Q. Walker, three miles west of Branford, Fla., stated that he had two screwworm infestations in hogs, three in calves and one in a yearling all in the past three weeks. Mr. Walker uses Watkins Dip as a larvicide and thinks it is very good.

Mr. J. H. Hunt, three miles south of Branford, has three or four hundred head of cattle. Mrs. Hunt stated that screwworms are getting bad in their cattle and are earlier than in previous years.

Mr. R. B. Goff, Pine Mount, Fla., had five screwworm infestations about two weeks ago in castration wounds of young steers.

Dixie County, Cross City, Fla.

Mr. D. M. Treadwell, County Agricultural Agent, stated that they have had infestations all winter and at present there are about twenty infestations for every one hundred young calves.

Mr. L. S. Stephens, Old Town, Fla., ten miles east of Cross City, who buys and sells horses, stated that screwworms have been active all winter and that he has had a number of infestations in horses this spring. He also stated that Kreso Dip burns and makes a wound swell, when used on horses.

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Suwannee County, Live Oak, Fla.

Mr. S. C. Kierce, County Agricultural Agent, stated that he has not heard of very many screwworm infestations in Suwannee County.

A dairyman, Mr. Sid Allen, two miles north of Live Oak, stated that he has had eleven infestations within the last three weeks. Two of these were in the navels of young calves and nine in castration wounds of pigs.

Fletcher's Stock Yards, Live Oak, Fla.--The attendant at the stables stated that they have had screwworms all along this spring. The writer saw an egg mass on a castration wound of a hog at these stables. This wound was treated on May 12.

The Home Drug Company in Live Oak has been selling screwworm medicines for about a month this spring; and they sell more benzol and pine tar than any other treatment.

Mr. O'Neil who lives twelve miles northwest of Live Oak has had five infestations of screwworm during the last month. I. E. Hunter has had a few infestations during the past week. Mr. Bloom who lives in Live Oak and is a cattle owner has had a few infestations but not a great many this spring. Mr. J. H. Long, Houston, Fla., has had plenty of infestations in castration wounds of cattle all during April. Mr. H. Hunter, two and one-half miles southwest of Lake City, had several infestations about a week ago.

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Columbia County, Lake City, Fla.

The county agricultural agent was not in his office at the time the writer called.

Screwworm medicines are sold at the Lake City Pharmacy. These people have been selling screwworm medicines at least three days of each week and as much on Saturday as they do all the other days in the week.

Mr. C. M. Smith, Lake Butler, Fla., R.F.D. 2, had one infestation in the sheath of a mule. The larvae were killed with benzol.

Hamilton County, Jasper, Fla.

Mr. J. J. Sechrest, County Agricultural Agent, stated that he had not heard of very many infestations. However, when the writer was in his office a number of farmers came in, and every one of these men had treated infestations within the last few weeks.

Mr. Roy Adams, twelve miles southeast of Jasper, had treated an infestation in a pig's ear on May 12. The pig's ear was almost eaten off. Mr. J. A. Corbett, Jasper, Fla., has had about five infestations during the last week. These infestations were in castration wounds. Mr. I. S. Johnson has had about ten infestations during the last week. Mr. K. Hillhouse, White Springs, Fla., has had some infestations. Mr. Wallis Bates, Jennings, Fla., had four or five infestations in hogs last week.

Wise's Drugs, City Pharmacy, Jasper, Fla., have their own preparation for screwworm infestation which Mr. Wise states is a good one.

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The writer saw an egg mass on a mule's sheath at a log at Hamilton County, Jasper, Fla.

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They sell about a dozen pints each week.

Lake Park, Georgia

The Wisenbakers at Lake Park had some trouble from screwworm infestations about two weeks ago. A number of these infestations was in hogs and one infestation in a calf's navel on May 11.

CONCLUSIONS:

1. At present more accurate information on the screwworm situation can be obtained from farmers and stock owners than from agricultural agents. Since the agricultural agents do not distribute pine tar oil and benzol the stockmen go to other agencies for larvicides and repellents. As a result the county agents do not hear of very many infestations and are not in a position to state just what the status of screwworm infestations may be.
2. Screwworms overwintered in counties in south Georgia and in north Florida. In most all counties in which the survey was made the agricultural agents and stockmen corroborated the statement that screwworms were present continuously thru the winter of 1938-39.
3. Screwworms appeared earlier than in two or three years. The probability is that the number of screwworm cases will be considerably greater by the fall of 1939 unless unfavorable weather conditions and close care by ranchmen intervene.
4. Infestations were mostly in navels and castration wounds. Farmers castrated animals believing the screwworms had not yet appeared.

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5. Proprietary medicines rather than benzol are favored. Many farmers are using Kreso Dip and other larvicides made by druggists that are on the market.

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